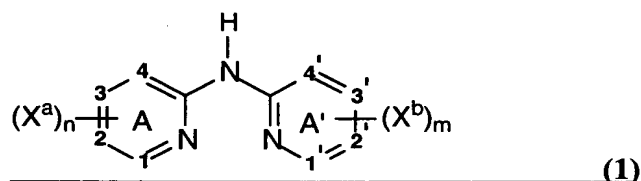


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A process of forming a 2-2' bis(pyridyl azinyl)amine-BF₂ complex, where a boron atom is complexed by two ring nitrogens of a ~~deprotonated bis(azinyl)amine compound~~, comprising the step of reacting BF₃ with an ~~protonated bis(azinyl) amine~~ having Formula (1)



wherein:

A and A' represent independent azine ring systems corresponding to 6-membered aromatic ring systems containing at least one nitrogen;

each X^a and X^b is an independently selected substituent, two of which may join to form a fused ring to A or A';

m and n are independently 0 to 4; and

atoms 1, 2, 3, 4, 1', 2', 3', and 4' are carbon atoms;

in the presence of a polar aprotic organic solvent containing a nitrile group that is not reactive with the BF₃ under reaction conditions and has the Formula:



wherein

R₁, R₂ and R₃ each independently represents hydrogen, fluorine, alkyl, aryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, dialkylamino, diarylamino, cyano, or nitro groups wherein at least one of R₁, R₂ and R₃ is not H; and

R₁ and R₂, R₂ and R₃ or R₁ and R₃ may join to form a cycloalkyl or an aryl ring group.

- 2.-4 (Canceled)
5. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein at least two of R₁, R₂ and R₃ are not H.
6. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ represent H and R₃ represents a methyl group.
7. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ represent H and R₃ represents an ethyl group.
8. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein at least two of R₁, R₂ and R₃ are H.
9. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the BF₃ source is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprises~~ BF₃ gas, BF₃ solution in an organic solvent or BF₃ complex with organic solvent or compound.
10. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the BF₃ source is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprises~~ BF₃ complexed with diethyl ether, dimethyl ether or tetrahydrofuran.
11. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein BF₃ is used in the amount 1-50 equivalents per mol of ~~protonated bis(aziryl)~~ the amine compound having Formula (1).
12. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the reaction is performed at a temperature of at least 18 °C.
13. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the reaction is performed at a temperature of at least 80 °C.
14. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the reaction is performed at a temperature of at least 115 °C.
15. (Canceled)
16. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~15~~ where at least one X^a or X^b is present containing 4 or more carbon atoms.

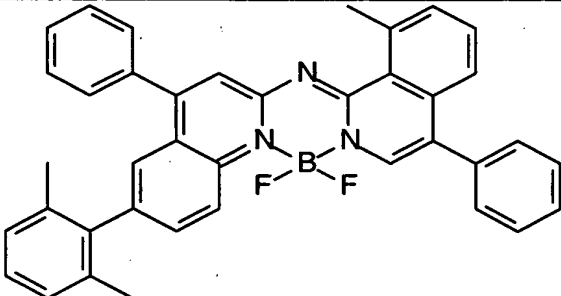
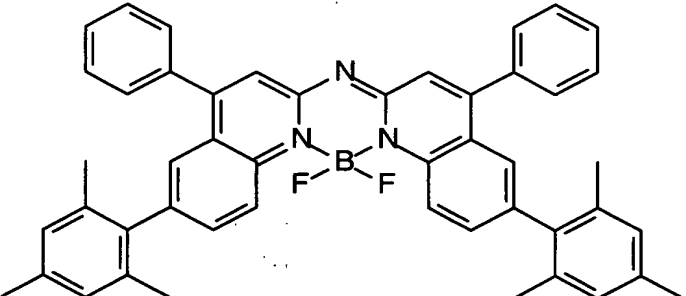
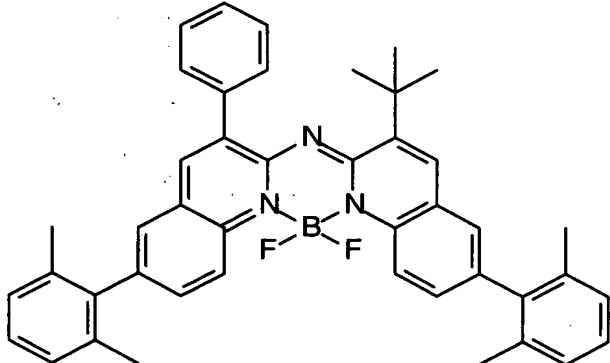
17. (Original) The process of claim 16 wherein the X^a or X^b group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl and t-butyl groups.

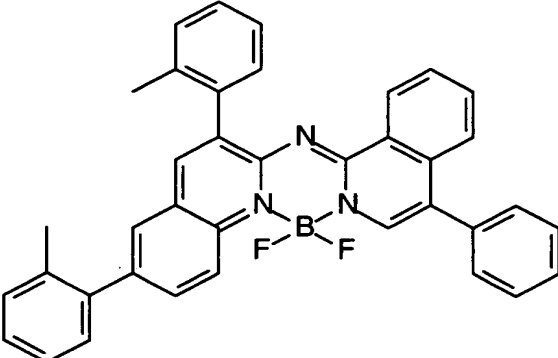
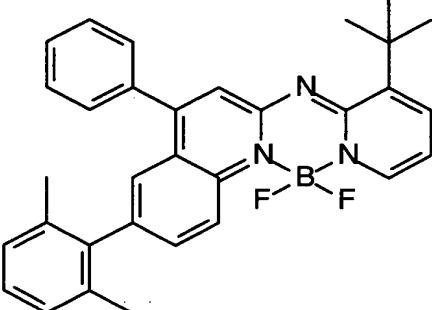
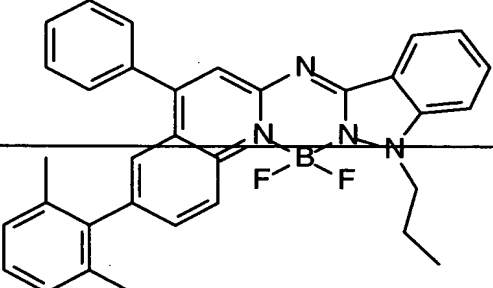
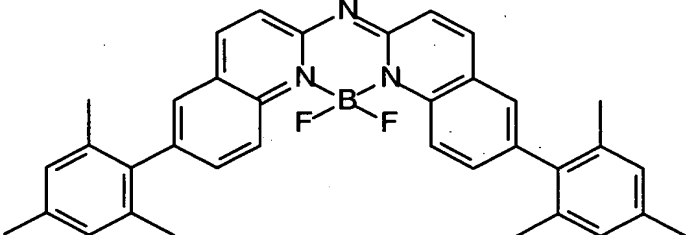
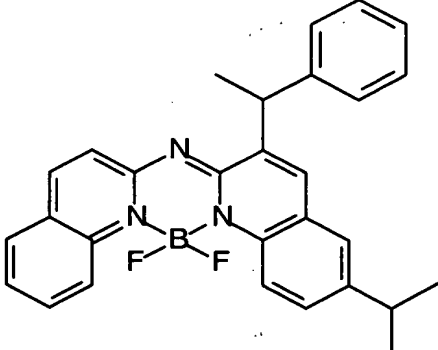
18. (Original) The process of claim 17 wherein the X^a or X^b group is a phenyl group.

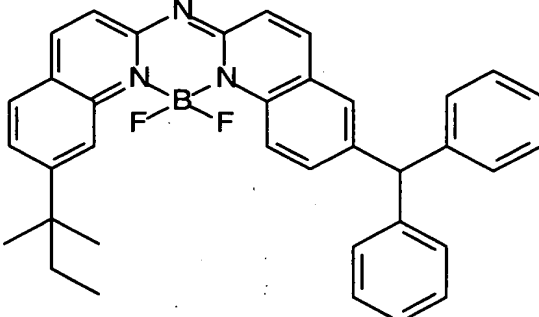
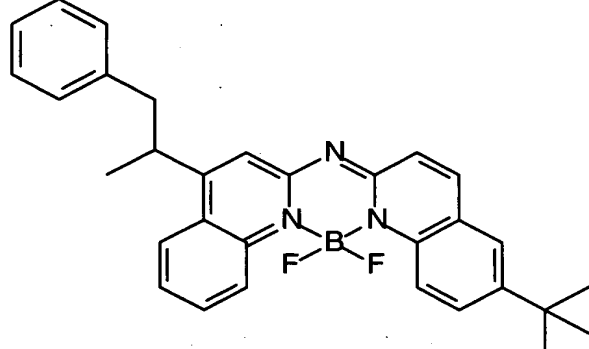
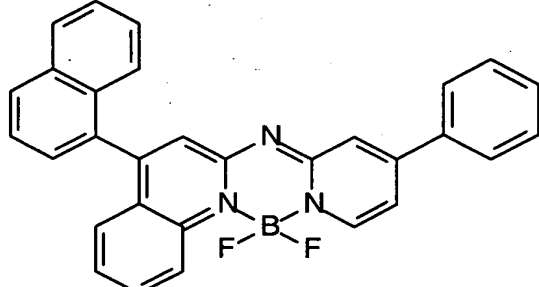
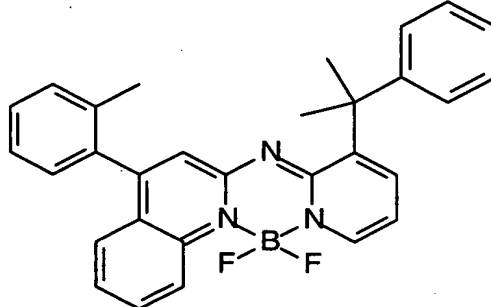
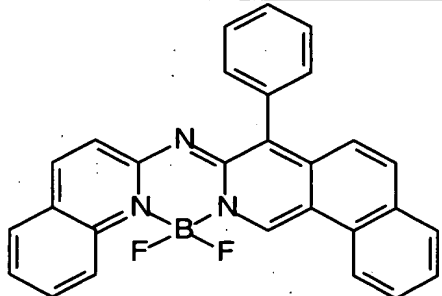
19. (Original) The process of claim 17 wherein the X^a or X^b group is a phenyl group containing at least one methyl group substituent.

20. (Original) The process of claim 17 wherein the X^a or X^b group is a mesityl group.

21. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the a bis(aziryl)amine-BF₂ complex is selected from the following:

Inv-1	
Inv-2	
Inv-3	

Inv-4	
Inv-5	
Inv-6	
Inv-7	
Inv-8	

Inv-9	
Inv-10	
Inv-11	
Inv-12	
Inv-13	 <p>and</p>

Inv-14

